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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|-----------------|-------------|-----------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| 10/684,933 | 10/14/2003 | Juan Singla Casasayas | 932.1249 | 6390 |

21831 7590 04/05/2005

STEINBERG & RASKIN, P.C.
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NEW YORK, NY 10036-5803

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| EXAMINER |
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NELSON JR, MILTON

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| ART UNIT | PAPER NUMBER |
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3636

DATE MAILED: 04/05/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/684,933

Applicant(s)

CASASAYAS, JUAN SINGLA

Examiner

Milton Nelson, Jr.

Art Unit

3636

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 1/10/05.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claims 1-4 are rejected as failing to define the invention in the manner required by 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph.

Claim 1 is indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. In line 2, it appears that Applicant is positively claiming a "user". Note the recitation "a seat where an armchair user is seated". It is suggested that "where an armchair user is seated" be deleted.

Claim 1 is narrative in form and is replete with functional or operational language. The structure, which goes to make up the device, must be clearly and positively specified. The structure must be organized and correlated in such a manner as to present a complete operative device. Claim 1 fails to provide sufficient structure to support the function recited therein. Note the function "can be folded between a substantially horizontal position and a substantially vertical position ..." It is suggested that Applicant provide sufficient structure to support the claimed operation. The dependent claims are indefinite since each depends from the indefinite independent claim.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(a) the invention was known or used by others in this country, or patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country, before the invention thereof by the applicant for a patent.

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1-4, as best understood with the above cited indefiniteness, are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(a) as being anticipated by Bidare (6467847). Note the armrest (10), substantially horizontal position (32), substantially vertical position (70), wherein the armrest does not protrude frontally from the backrest (see Figure 2), curved trajectory (note pivotal movement, as shown in Figure 2), curved configuration (note that each end of the armrest is arcuate, as shown in Figure 2), and guide (98, wherein member 30 rotatably slides upon this member).

Claims 1-4, as best understood with the above cited indefiniteness, are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(a) as being anticipated by Freeman (3807799). Note the armrest (19), substantially horizontal position (A), and substantially vertical position (C), wherein the armrest does not protrude frontally from the backrest (see Figure 1), curved trajectory (note pivotal movement, as shown in Figure 1), curved configuration (note that each end of the armrest is arcuate, as shown in Figure 2), and guide (26 or 27).

Response to Amendment/Arguments

Applicant's response filed January 10, 2005 has been fully considered.

Remaining issues are described above. This office action has not been made final since it includes a new grounds of rejection not necessitated by Applicant's response. The indicated allowability of claims 1-4 is withdrawn in view of the newly discovered prior art. Rejections based on the newly cited prior art are described above.

Conclusion

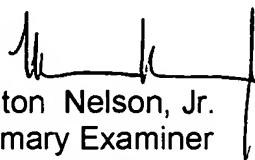
The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Wallace et al (4040665) shows a downwardly foldable armrest assembly.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Milton Nelson, Jr. whose telephone number is 7033082117 (currently) and 5712726881 (after April 7, 2005). The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 5:30-3:00.

The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


Milton Nelson, Jr.
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 3636

mn
March 28, 2005